THE CASE OF THE BOROUGH of *HERTFORD.*

I. *Hertford* is a *Borough by preſcription*, and ſent Members to Parliament above Two hundred and forty Years before any Charter, as appears by a Return 26th of *Edw.* the Firſt; The Return is, *per Communitatem Burgenſium*; which can ſignify only Inhabitants.

II. *Primo Mariæ Anno* 1553, by Charter, the Queen at the *humble Petition* of the Town, *creates* them a Corporation by the name of Baliff and Burgeſſes, and gives Power of Chooſing *Tenants* and *Inhabitants* of Borough, Burgeſſes or Freemen, who might be *neceſſary for the Government thereof.*

III. The 31ſt *Eliz.* By Charter made Mayor and Burgeſſes, but gives no Power of Admitting Burgeſſes or Freemen.

IV. The 3d *Jac.* 1. They are made Mayor and Capital Burgeſſes, by this Charter Mayor, *&c.* have Power of Admitting as many of the *Inhabitants within and without Borough, in the Pariſhes of Borough, Burgeſſes or Freemen as they ſhall think neceſſary, and profitable for the Comodity of the Borough; ſo that Burgaſſes out of Borough do not exceed at any one time the number of three Perſons.*

V. *Note*, There are three Pariſhes, part of which lie within Borough and Part without.

VI. The 32d *Car.* 2. Made Mayor and Aldermen, and the Corporation is by this Charter enlarged, but gives no Power of Admitting Burgeſſes.

VII. *Note*, The *Inhabitants of the old Borough* only Admitted to Vote tho' the Corporation be Enlarg'd.

VIII. No Charter can alter the right of Election; neither do theſe Charters take notice how, or by whom Burgeſſes of Parliament ſhall be Choſen; *ſo the Right remains in the Inhabitants*, as it was before Charter.

IX. But if ſuch Freemen are admitted to Vote, as were Legally made Free according to their Charters; It's humbly ſubmitted whether thoſe Freemen ſhall Vote, that the Majeſtrates have *illegally made* by aſſuming a Power to themſelves, contrary to their Charter.

X. Notwithſtanding the words of the Charter are; ſo as Burgeſſes inhabiting without the Borough aforeſaid, do not exceed at any one time the number of three Perſons, yet they have made *ſeveral hundreds of Perſons free*, not only out of Borough and the Pariſhes aforeſaid, *but in other Counties*, by which means the Votes of the Inhabitants, in whom only the Right of Election lies, are as effectually taken away, as if they were deny'd their Votes.

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